

Hands-Together Workshop 1 **Parallel Motion**

When the fingers of each hand move in the *same* direction at the same time, they move in *parallel motion*.

On the closed keyboard cover:

- Play hands separately with the correct fingers.
- Then play hands together.

Repeat 3 times each day.



Musical notation for parallel motion exercise in 4/4 time. The right hand (RH) and left hand (LH) play the same sequence of notes together.

RH: 1 2 3 4 5 4 3 2 1 3 5 3 1

LH: 5 4 3 2 1 2 3 4 5 3 1 3 5

Perfectly Parallel



Technique Tip: Use strong fingertips.

First play each example hands separately, then together.

1. Moderately *Play p on repeat.*

Musical notation for example 1 in 4/4 time, marked Moderately. The right hand starts on G4 and the left hand on G3. The melody consists of quarter notes: G-A-B-A-G-F-E-D-C-B-A-G. The left hand plays the same notes an octave lower. The piece ends with a repeat sign and a piano (*p*) dynamic marking.

2. With energy *Play p on repeat.*

Musical notation for example 2 in 4/4 time, marked With energy. The right hand starts on G4 and the left hand on G3. The melody consists of quarter notes: G-A-B-C-B-A-G-F-E-D-C-B-A-G. The left hand plays the same notes an octave lower. The piece ends with a repeat sign and a piano (*p*) dynamic marking.

3. Quickly *Play p on repeat.*

Musical notation for example 3 in 4/4 time, marked Quickly. The right hand starts on G4 and the left hand on G3. The melody consists of quarter notes: G-A-B-A-G-F-E-D-C-B-A-G. The left hand plays the same notes an octave lower. The piece ends with a repeat sign and a piano (*p*) dynamic marking.



Technique Tip: Play crisp *staccato* and smooth *legato*. Practice hands separately then together.

Back and Forth

Carl Czerny (1791–1857)

Op. 777, No. 2

(adapted)

Allegro

Play both hands 1 octave higher throughout.

1.

1. *mf*

5

mp

Allegro

Play both hands 1 octave higher throughout.

2.

2. *mf*

5

mp

Technique Challenge: Play Nos. 1 and 2 using a G 5-finger pattern.



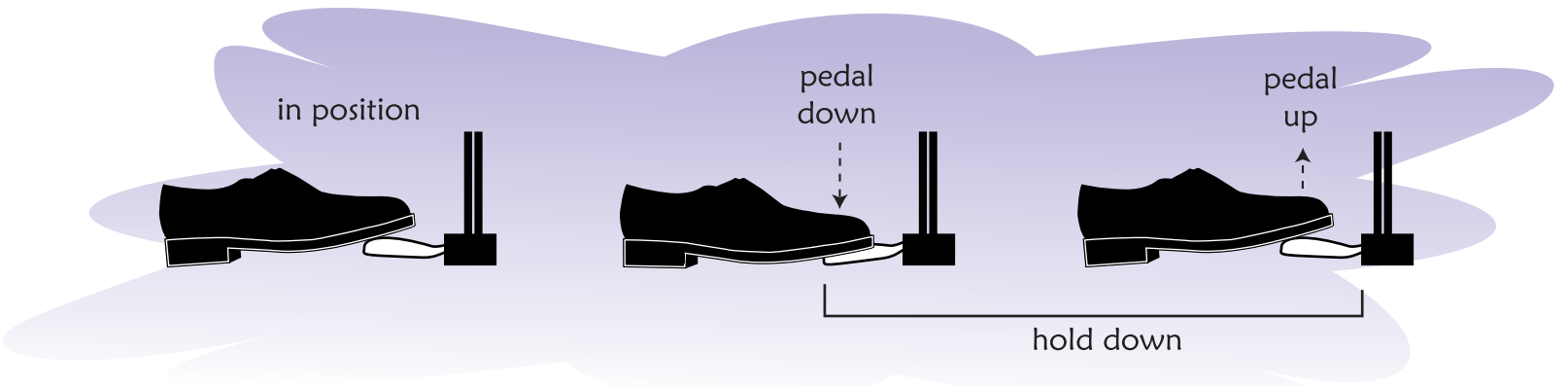
Technique Tool 7

Damper Pedal Footwork

Review: The damper pedal is the pedal on the right. Pedal with your right foot, and keep your heel on the floor.

- Press the pedal down, then let it up. Always keep your foot in contact with the pedal.
- Repeat several times until your foot and ankle feel comfortable pressing the pedal down and letting it up.
- Play *Steeple of Salzburg*. Play the notes and depress the damper pedal at the same time. Then release the notes and let the damper pedal up at the same time.

Repeat 3 times each day.



Steeple of Salzburg



Technique Tip: Use gentle hand rocks for the RH intervals.

Boldly

5

Let sound fade away.

Artistic Etude 4

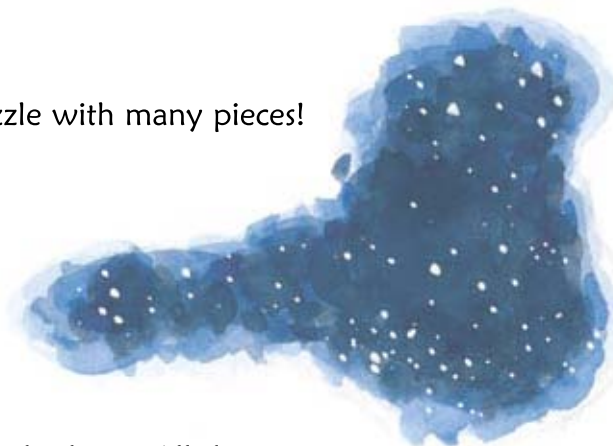
Tools for Expressive Performance

Playing expressively is like assembling a challenging, fun puzzle with many pieces!

To play with expression, you must use:

- Appropriate tempo (speed).
- Steady or even meter (time signature).
- Dynamic contrasts.
- Articulation (*staccato* and *legato*).
- Correct pedal, if needed.
- Good balance between melody and accompaniment.

An expressive pianist doesn't just play the correct notes and rhythms. All the other musical "puzzle pieces" also must be there!



Technique Tip: Keep your foot over the damper pedal at all times, with your heel on the floor.

Reach for the Stars

Moderato

3

8va

3

1

mp

When you're feel-ing down and kind of blue, reach up high, touch the sky.

p

1/5

1/5

5

3

2

mp

There is noth-ing that you can - not do when you reach for the stars.

1 2 3